

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, February 6, 2020, via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC
Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC
Holly Free, RN, MSN

MEMBERS ABSENT

Irene Cordell, RN
Tina Fletcher, LPN
Candice Broce, Consumer Member

STAFF PRESENT

Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Tara Miller, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Mary Brannen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 6, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Free moved, Thompson seconded and the Committee voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k); 43-1-19(h), 43-26-5(c) and 43-26-11, to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications, investigative reports and pending cases. The motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Thursday, February 6, 2020, Thompson declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during executive session.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE CASES

(**LPNI** = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number) (**RNI**=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Blalock moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

LPNI180224 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition and documentation of completion of active practice requirements.

RNI200008 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200025 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand against the privilege to practice to include a fine of \$500 for unprofessional conduct, and courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Jurisprudence – GA RN, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI200873 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200069 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and 3.) Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI200890 - Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for CE violation.

LPNI200052 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191400 – Refer to Investigations to obtain facility documents regarding facility investigation.

RNI200159 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition and documentation of completion of active practice requirements.

LPNI190439 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition and documentation of completion of active practice requirements.

RNI200275 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200711 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200713 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200034 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition and documentation of completion of active practice requirements.

LPNI190474 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include two (2) years probation, one (1) year narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (personal, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy, medication management), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly hair follicle tests for twelve months (Hairstat 10), quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions, a fine of \$1000 for failure to disclose, and courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and must wean off Subutex within six months of docket date of order.

RNI200906 – Issue license with letter of concern (action in another jurisdiction).

LPNI180183 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200372 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI200136 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for unprofessional conduct and courses – Documentation for Nurses, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI200784 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (personal, employer, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth tests for twelve months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing. Thompson recusing.

RNI200793 – Close case with letter of modification to include new date of sobriety.

RNI200355/RNI200567 – Close case with letter of modification to include new date of sobriety.

RNI190439 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for unprofessional conduct, five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotics restrictions, quarterly reports (personal, employer, psychotherapy, medication management), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly hair follicle tests for twelve months (Hairstat 10 and Suboxone), quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions, a fine of \$1000 for failure to disclose, and courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing and must wean off Suboxone within six months of docket date of order.

RNI200478 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for unprofessional conduct, five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotics restrictions, quarterly reports (personal, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy, medication management), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly hair follicle tests for twenty-four months (Hairstat 14), quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions and courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing. Must submit final disposition of criminal case within ten days of adjudication.

LPNI200256 – Issue license upon receipt of docketed order and fine payment. Must submit documentation of successful completion of probation within ten days of completion.

LPNI200257 – Issue multistate license.

LPNI200258 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for failure to disclose arrests on application.

LPNI200259 – Issue single state license with letter of concern (action in another jurisdiction).

RNI200766 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition and documentation of completion of active practice requirements.

LPNI190614 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with submission of documentation of completion of continuing competency requirements.

RNI191094 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for unprofessional conduct and courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Risk Advisor for Advanced Practice Nurses: Know Your Risk for Legal Action.

RNI191256 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200904 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, February 6, 2020, at 4:22 p.m.


James D. Cleghorn, **Executive Director**